

MISCELLANY

From time to time in this department of California and Western Medicine, appear columns grouped under the following headings: Comment on Current and Recent Articles in this Journal; News; Medical Economics; Readers' Forum; California State Board of Health; and California Board of Medical Examiners. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

CURRENT COMMENT

The Endorsement of Commercial Products by Physicians—In this present era of advertising and publicity, it has become a widely followed practice for the makers of all kinds of goods to advertise their wares by printing the pictures of well-known men or women together with their endorsements of the product. Thus, we are accustomed to see portrayals of dramatic critics, actors and others smoking some particular brand of cigar or cigarette and certifying that there is nothing like it. The endorsers, we understand, are not infrequently remunerated.

The propriety of this course on the part of those who furnish their endorsements, where such endorsers are members of the laity, is a matter falling within their liberty of choice, and is properly governed by their own sense of the fitness of things. When, however, non-therapeutic agents, such as, for example, cigarettes, are advertised as having the recommendation of the medical profession, the public is thereby led to believe that some real scientific inquiry has been instituted, and that the endorsement is the result of painstaking and accurate inquiry as to the merits of the product.

So then by this advertisement the general public is given the impression that there has been a real scientific inquiry as to the therapeutic effect of the cigarettes in question, and that a real scientific investigation has been made, as a result of which the conclusion has been scientifically arrived at that the cigarettes in question were "less irritating to sensitive or tender throats than any other cigarettes." It is highly improbable, to say the least, that any such scientific investigation such as doctors make in order to determine the value, let us say, of insulin or other therapeutic agents, had been made. The thinking members of the public must realize this, and those of them inclined toward a dislike or suspicion of the profession might unfortunately be led to the conclusion that professional judgment was in some instances tainted with that commercialism which would destroy its scientific value. If this is so, such conclusions would not aid in building up that confidence and respect for medical opinion to which your great profession and its individual members so richly are entitled.—Lloyd Paul Stryker. (Reprint from *New York State Journal of Medicine*.)

NEWS

Meeting of Laennec and Trudeau Societies—The Laennec Society of San Francisco, made up of a small number of physicians interested in lung disease, has invited the Trudeau Society of Los Angeles to unite with it in presenting to the profession a symposium on lung surgery on Saturday, January 28, 1928.

On Saturday morning at 9 o'clock at the San Francisco Hospital there will be a clinic at which Doctor Thearle will do the operation of thoracoplasty, and Doctor Matson will do a Jacobaeus Unverricht operation on pleural adhesions. Dr. Leo Eloesser will either do an operation on a case of bronchiectasis or illustrate the operation and show a number of cases.

On Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the rooms of the San Francisco County Medical Society a literary program will be presented, consisting of papers by the invited guests with lantern slide exhibition, and papers also by leading surgeons who have done con-

siderable work in this field, including Dr. Harold Brunn of the University of California Medical School on lobectomy for the treatment of bronchiectasis; Dr. Leo Eloesser, professor of clinical surgery, Stanford University Medical School on partial thoracoplasty; and Dr. Emile Holman of Stanford University Medical School on experimental production of tuberculous abscesses of the lung.

It is probable that Dr. Edward Archibald of Montreal who is to address the Academy of Medicine on the night of January 28 will give some clinics and participate in the afternoon meeting at the San Francisco County Medical Society rooms.

Full announcement of the program is appended. The medical profession is invited to attend the morning operations and the afternoon session.

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Laennec Society's Symposium on Lung Surgery—Saturday morning, 9 a. m., San Francisco Hospital, January 28, 1928. Main surgical amphitheater:

Thoracoplasty—Dr. William A. Thearle, Major Medical Corps, U. S. A. (retired), and formerly surgeon at Fitzsimmons Hospital.

Jacobaeus Unverricht operation on pleural adhesions—Dr. Ralph A. Matson.

Bronchiectasis operation and case reports—Dr. Leo Eloesser.

Saturday afternoon—Rooms of San Francisco County Medical Society, Laguna and Washington streets:

Surgical operations for the relief of lung tuberculosis by compression—Dr. William H. Thearle, Denver, Colorado.

The Jacobaeus Unverricht operation for removal of pleural adhesions which prevent successful lung collapse—or something on his dissections of the phrenic nerve—Dr. Ralph A. Matson, Portland Oregon. Discussion by Dr. Edward Archibald, Montreal, Canada, guest of the Academy of Medicine.

Lobectomy for the treatment of bronchiectasis—Dr. Harold Brunn, professor of surgery, University of California Medical School.

Partial thoracoplasty for pulmonary tuberculosis—Dr. Leo Eloesser, professor of clinical surgery, Stanford University.

The surgery of lung abscess—Dr. Emile Holman, professor of surgery, Stanford Medical School.

Saturday evening:

Academy dinner.

Thoracoplasty—Dr. Edward Archibald. Discussion by invitation: Major William A. Thearle, Denver, Colorado; Dr. Matson, Portland, Oregon.

How to Secure Treatment for a Needy Crippled Child—Under a new law passed at the last session of the legislature, provision is made for the treatment of crippled children. In order to make the essential details relative to the working of the law readily available the following questions and answers are published here:

Q. For whom is the Crippled Child Act designed to provide treatment?

A. Needy physically defective or handicapped persons under 18 years of age, residents of California, who should have necessary surgical, medical, hospital, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, or other service, special treatment, materials, or appliances for use in relieving their defective or handicapped condition.

Q. Is treatment provided for all handicapped individuals?

A. No. Only for those whose parents or guardians

are unable to furnish such treatment, either in whole or in part.

Q. What is the necessary procedure for obtaining treatment?

A. The parents or guardian may petition the superior court of the county wherein they are residents for a certificate setting forth the facts, and if the judge is satisfied that the parents or guardian are unable to furnish treatment and appliances, either in whole or in part, he shall issue a certificate to that effect.

Q. What shall the parents or guardians do with such certificate, having obtained it?

A. They shall present it to the State Department of Public Health, whose duty it is to furnish the necessary services, materials or appliances, their upkeep and transportation, the expenses incidental to which are advanced by the department from a revolving fund appropriated for that purpose.

Q. Does this mean that treatment is provided at the expense of the state?

A. No. All money expended under the authority of the certificate constitutes a legal county charge against the county from which the certificate is issued.

Q. What provision is made for the handling of such expense claims by the county?

A. The director of the State Department of Public Health shall present a claim for expenses of the necessary treatment, services, appliances and their upkeep and transportation, to the board of supervisors of the county in which the certificate is issued, whereupon the supervisors shall audit and approve said claim and the county auditor shall issue a warrant for the amount thereof payable to the State Department of Public Health, and the county treasurer shall pay the same.

Q. Where is the treatment of such physically handicapped persons given?

A. In hospitals or institutions with which the State Department of Public Health may contract to provide service and equipment or by individuals, agencies or organizations approved and designated by the department.

Q. When and where may a crippled child be examined and diagnosis made?

A. At diagnostic clinics held in the county at some central place designated by the State Department of Public Health.

Q. How may parents or guardians learn where these diagnostic clinics are located?

A. By making inquiry of county health officers, public health nurses, and local physicians.

Q. Does the State Department of Public Health exercise supervision over handicapped persons under treatment?

A. Yes. Through its employees and the agencies with which it may cooperate it maintains a strict supervision over such cases under its care, visiting them when advisable, causing a record to be kept showing their condition and improvement.

Q. Are parents or guardians who are able expected to contribute in part for treatment, appliances, their upkeep and transportation?

A. Yes. The State Department of Public Health may enter into agreements with them to pay such amounts as they may be able toward the cost of service, equipment, etc.

Q. May the State Department of Public Health receive gifts, legacies and bequests to expend for the purposes outlined in the act?

A. Yes, provided that no part of such funds be used for administrative expenses.

Q. May county boards of supervisors levy a special tax to provide funds for carrying out the purposes of the act?

A. Yes. They may levy a special tax not to exceed the sum of three mills on each dollar on the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county.

Q. Are the counties in California authorized to provide treatment independently for needy physically defective or handicapped persons?

A. Yes, or they may cooperate with the State Department of Public Health as already outlined. If act-

ing independently, parents or guardians must consent in writing to the provisions of care and treatment.

The San Diego Academy of Medicine—The San Diego Academy of Medicine will hold its annual series of lectures during the week beginning January 23, 1928.

The guest will be Dr. Allen Krause of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

Doctor Krause is a very notable figure in the field of tuberculosis, holding the following titles: Associate Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins; Lecturer at the Trudeau School of Tuberculosis; Director of the Kenneth-Dows Tuberculosis Research Laboratories of Johns Hopkins Hospital; and Editor of American Review of Tuberculosis.

The San Diego Academy of Medicine extends an invitation to all physicians who are interested to attend these lectures.

Preservation of Darwin Home—We learn with pleasure that Charles Darwin's house, where he did most of his epoch-making work, has been purchased and presented to the nation. This was the fruit of an appeal by Sir Arthur Keith in his presidential address to the British Association. On reading the appeal Mr. George Buckston Browne, a retired genitourinary surgeon, at once telegraphed Sir Arthur his desire to make himself responsible for the entire gift, his motive being to allow future generations to see Darwin's home, which, with its estate might otherwise pass into the hands of builders. The cost of the house, which is at Downe, in Kent, with some endowment fund, amounts to between \$60,000 and \$70,000. —*Canad. M. A. J.*

California Physicians to Report Children Having Impaired Hearing—Senate Bill No. 342, Chapter 660, was a bill approved by Governor Young on May 20, 1927. The bill has to do with a notification by physicians, nurses, parents or guardians of minors who are totally or partially deaf.

Reports are to be made to the superintendents of schools in counties and cities in which such children are residents. It is possible that this bill may be discussed in more detail in a subsequent issue. In the meantime, the attention of members of the California Medical Association is called to its general provisions. —Department of Public Health.

The American Board of Otolaryngology—An examination was held in Detroit on September 12, during the session of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology. One hundred and two applicants appeared for examination, with .107 per cent failures.

An examination was held in Memphis on November 14, preceding the session of the Southern Medical Association, with .127 per cent failures.

In the course of the past year 369 applicants have been examined.

In 1928 examinations will be held in Minneapolis on June 11 at the session of the American Medical Association, and in St. Louis, on October 15 during the meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.

Prospective applicants for certificates should address the secretary, Dr. W. P. Wherry, 1500 Medical Arts Building, Omaha, for proper application blanks.

American College of Physical Therapy and International League Against Epilepsy as Well as the American Psychiatric Association to Visit European Medical Centers—A splendid opportunity to enlarge our knowledge of special branches of the profession is offered by visits to the European centers which have been arranged by the American College of Physical Therapy and the International League against Epilepsy.

The purpose of these visits is to obtain by personal contact a comprehensive idea of what is taking place across the water, and these societies cordially extend

to the entire medical profession an invitation to participate.

Perhaps the largest party to go abroad will be the American College of Physical Therapy. This group will sail from New York on May 26, 1928. The epileptologists and psychiatrists will precede them, sailing on March 17.

While in Europe psychiatrists will visit several of the leading clinics, including the famous "Bethel Colony of Epileptics," in Bielefeld, Germany. At various stages of their journey clinical discussions will be held. At these meetings leading specialists in psychiatry will address them.

The high point of the physical therapy tour will be the visit to Professor Rollier's famous hospital in Leysin, Switzerland. This is the most famous clinic of its kind in the world, and where Doctor Rollier conducted his first experiments with heliotherapy.

Alvarenga Prize of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia—The College of Physicians of Philadelphia announces that the next award of the Alvarenga prize, being the income for one year of the bequest of the late Señor Alvarenga, and amounting to about \$300, will be made on July 14, 1928, provided an essay deemed by the committee of award to be worthy of the prize shall have been offered.

Essays intended for competition may be upon any subject in medicine, but cannot have been published. The essay should represent an addition to the knowledge and understanding of the subject based either upon original or literary research. They must be typewritten, and in English, acceptable for publication without necessity for editing by the committee. Any illustrations should be appropriate and correctly annotated with the text. Essays must be received by the secretary of the college on or before May 1, 1928.

Each essay must be sent without signature, but must be plainly marked with a motto and be accompanied by a sealed envelope having on its outside the motto of the paper and within the name and address of the author.

It is a condition of competition that the successful essay or a copy of it shall remain in possession of the college; other essays will be returned upon application within three months after the award.

The Alvarenga prize for 1927 has been awarded to Dr. Emil Bogen, Cincinnati, Ohio, for his essay entitled, "Drunkenness."—*Boston M. and S. J.*

University of California Medical School—Centralization of all departments of the University of California Medical School on Parnassus Heights in San Francisco will be effected as soon as space for them there becomes available, President W. W. Campbell announced yesterday.

President Campbell made the announcement after the Board of Regents of the university had endorsed his recommendation for unification of the medical school.

The plan, he said, grew from conferences he had held with Dr. Langley Porter, new dean of the medical school.

"This means," said Doctor Campbell's announcement, "that those medical school activities now conducted within a few departments on the Berkeley campus, such as pharmacology, biochemistry, bacteriology, and so forth, will be transferred to San Francisco soon."

University medical students now are required to attend classes both in San Francisco and in Berkeley because the few departments in question have been retained on the Berkeley campus.—*S. F. Examiner.*

The University of California Extension Division Announces Classes in the Bay Region, Beginning in January and February:

SAN FRANCISCO

Unusual and Difficult Children—Dr. V. H. Podstata. Thursday, January 19, 7 p. m., room 104.

Health Education—Dr. Richard A. Bolt. Tuesday, January 24, 7 p. m., room 204.

Psychology—Dr. Ethel Sabin-Smith. Friday, February 10, 7:30 p. m., room 202.

Abnormal Psychology—Dr. D. A. MacFarlane. Tuesday, January 17, 7 p. m., room 103.

Heredity and Evolution of Man—Prof. S. F. Light. Friday, January 27, 7:30 p. m., room 206.

Various courses in Education, Recent Discoveries in Science, Parliamentary Procedure, Art and Economics, will be offered. Classes are held in the new Extension Building, 540 Powell Street.

OAKLAND

Introduction to Psychology—Dr. D. A. MacFarlane. Wednesday, January 18, 7 p. m., room 304.

Practical Speech Making—Prof. Dwight E. Watkins. Monday, January 16, 8 p. m., room 304.

Current Events—Prof. Raymond G. Gettell. Tuesday, January 17, 7 p. m., room 101, Hotel Oakland.

Various courses in Education, Languages, Economics, etc., will be offered. Classes meet at Extension Center, 1512 Franklin Street, unless otherwise noted.

BERKELEY

Physiology of the Eye—Mr. Ora L. Huddleston. Wednesday, January 18, 8 p. m.

Elements of Expression—Miss Annie H. Allen. Thursday, January 19, 7:30 p. m., 123 Wheeler Hall. Various other courses.

Register at the offices: 540 Powell Street, San Francisco; 1512 Franklin Street, Oakland; 301 California Hall, Berkeley.

Infantile Paralysis Fund Given to University of California—Through the efforts of fifty residents of San Francisco and a number of other California cities, a fund of \$7231 has just been raised for the purpose of establishing a bureau for the collection and distribution of infantile paralysis serum at the University of California, according to an announcement of the Board of Regents at their regular meeting recently.

This fund has been created at the request of Dr. Karl Meyer, director of the University Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, it is stated, and its rapid accumulation is a result of hearty support by a group of business men and by the newspapers. Doctor Meyer asserts that the cooperation of the papers was extremely helpful.

The object of the bureau, it is explained, is to provide a central distributing center and emergency stock of serum for infantile paralysis, made from the blood of convalescent patients. This convalescent serum, experience has shown, is the only reliable method of combating the disease, and, if given early in its development, will either decrease its severity or prevent its further development.

Previous attempts to create such a bureau have failed through lack of funds to send out physicians in search of blood to be used in the manufacture of the serum. If a regular yearly endowment can be assured, the bureau will continue to function as a preventorium for future epidemics such as that which ravaged the state several years ago.

Lane Medical Lectures—The following popular medical lectures have been arranged to be delivered on alternate Friday evenings during January, February, and March, 1928:

January 13—"Psychoanalysis," Dr. James L. Whitney.

January 27—"Infantile Paralysis," Dr. Russell V. Lee.

February 10—"Cults, Quacks and Cures," Dr. Edgar L. Gilcreest.

February 24—"Chinese Medicine," Dr. Emmet Rixford.

March 9—"Protection Against Tuberculosis," Dr. Frederick Ebersson.

March 23—"Prevention of Heart Disease," Dr. William Dock.

This is the forty-sixth series of popular medical lectures given by our institution.